

It's been over 400 years since the Pirate Queen, Grace O'Malley, commanded the land and seas of Ireland's western isles. Can any modern day woman match the determination and bravery of this great Irish legend?

Inspired by The Gathering 2013, The Festival of the Pirate Queen will run for the first time from the 13th - 15th September. This new festival - celebrating the life of Grace O'Malley, one of the most inspirational women in Irish history - will take place throughout Clew Bay, the land base for her sea-faring adventures and her old stomping ground. Enjoy a whole range of activity celebrating this infamous woman in Westport, Clare Island, Louisburgh and Achill Island.

There's something for everyone whether its taking part in the Pirate Queen Ladies Adventure Race, sampling the delights of craft beer and cider at the Grainne Ale Festival at Westport House, enjoying the spectacle of traditional Yawl Racing on Achill Island, learning the story behind the legend through the many heritage tours, shows and lectures on offer, not to mention heaps of live entertainment across Clew Bay including a medieval village with re-enactments, street performers, Irish music, song and dance.

For more information see

[WWW.PIRATEQUEENFESTIVAL.IE](http://WWW.PIRATEQUEENFESTIVAL.IE)



All events are free of charge unless otherwise stated.



Stille in Shikra  
(in the stobor at the eagle)



# A CELEBRATION OF GRACE O'MALLEY

13TH TO 15TH SEPTEMBER 2013



[WWW.PIRATEQUEENFESTIVAL.IE](http://WWW.PIRATEQUEENFESTIVAL.IE)

## FRIDAY

### 20.30: The Legend of Grainne Mhaol Show

**Location:** Hotel Westport

A traditional Music Show with Sean Nós dancing and more modern steps of Irish Dancing. **Admission:** €25

## SATURDAY

### 9.00am: The Pirate Queen's Passage

**Location:** Great Western Greenway, Westport - Achill - Westport

Cycle from Westport along the Great Western Greenway and make your way to Achill to catch the Yawl Race. Board a local fishing boat. Catch and cook on board, see the sights and return to Westport.

**Price:** €90 **Contact:** Clew Bay Bike Hire: 353 98 37675 or info@clewbaybikehire.ie

### 9.30am: The Grace O'Malley Coach Tour

**Location:** Westport - Louisburgh - Achill

This tour starts from The Octagon, Westport. Drive to Louisburgh. Self guided tour of Granuaile Centre. Visit to Murrisk Abbey and Westport House. Head to Achill to catch the Yawl Race and visit Kildavnet Castle. Then return to Westport.

**Price:** €15 includes entry to Westport House - booking essential  
**Contact:** Clew Bay Heritage Centre 00353 98 26852 or westportheritage@eircom.net

### 11.00am: Pirate Queen's role in the West of Ireland

**Location:** Louisburgh HQ

Fr Pdraig O'Maille, former Chieftain of the O'Malley Clan discusses Grace O'Malley and her role in the West of Ireland. Refreshments provided.

**Price:** €3

### 11.00am-15.00pm: Guided Foraging Walk

**Location:** Louisburgh - Old Head Car Park

Guided foraging with Pirate Queen theme.

**Price:** Adults €10, children free. **Contact:** Will: (0876249894)

### 11.45: Pirate Queen Ladies Adventure Race

**Location:** Clare Island

Safety Briefing at Sailor's Bar.

**12.30:** Race starts **Register online:** www.activeeurope.com

### 12.00: Launch of Achill Yawl Events

**Location:** Kildavnet Castle, Achill

Brian Dobson, RTE Newsreader and avid sailor, sails in on Yawl led by traditional pipers to Kildavnet Castle and launches the Achill Yawl Events.

### 12.30: Opening of Yawl Photography Exhibition

**Location:** Kildavnet Castle, Achill

Photography, Miniature Hand Crafted Yawl Sailing Boats & Children's Art.

### 12.30: Grace O'Malley at Westport House

**Location:** Westport House

Join us on a voyage of discovery at Westport House, still owned and run by her 14th great grand-daughters. Hear her swash-buckling tale: how she ruled the seas from Scotland to Spain and crossed swords with Queen Elizabeth. See her eight foot tall bronze and alabaster stone statues and visit the "dungeons".

**Price:** €7.50 **On sale at:** www.westporthouse.ie or at House

### 12.30: Duffy's Craft Shop

**Location:** Louisburgh

Weaving display by Clare Island local Beth Moran.

### 13.00pm: Warrior Women Documentary

**Location:** Kildavnet Castle, Achill

The Warrior Women documentary on Grace O'Malley, with introduction by renowned author Anne Chambers. Lucy Lawless, star of Xena - Warrior Princess - hosts this one-hour episode produced by October Films.

### 14.00: The Grace O'Malley Traditional Yawl Race

**Location:** Kildavnet Castle, Achill

Live commentary by Cumann Badoiri Acla's Michael Cooney followed by open air traditional music session.

### 14.00 - 20.00pm: Grainne Ale Festival

**Location:** Gracy's Bar, Westport House, Westport

Join in Westport's first ever beer festival - Grainne Ale. Craft brewers will offer samples and sell their products over the weekend.

**Music:** 3.00pm Last Night's Session 5.30pm The Hip Pocket Trio

### 14.00-18.00: Street Performers

**Location:** Streets of Westport

Join in an afternoon of entertainment where an assortment of street performers will take to the streets of Westport. Suitable for all ages!

### 14.00 & 15.30: Monsieur Gusto Show

Monsieur Gusto is the most amazing French Irish (Fresh) juggling escapologist sensation you have never seen.

### 15.00 & 16.30: Funky Fi

It's the totally awesome, super funky, pole climbing circus show!! A 30 minute show based around a 5 metre high chinese pole - a unique acrobatic skill.

### 16.00 & 17.15: Hakuna Matata

Acrobatics, comedy, contortion, juggling: this show is a non-stop rollercoaster of skill from beginning to end. A 30 minute high energy, high skill acrobatics show.

### 16.00: Crowning of the Pirate Queen

**Location:** Sailors Bar, Go Explore Hostel, Clare Island

The winner of the ladies adventure race will be crowned and the celebration will continue with a music session featuring local artists.

### 17.00: A Taste of Louisburgh & Music on the Square

**Location:** Various venues around Louisburgh

Foodies will enjoy all the food and flavours provided on the stalls at Louisburgh HQ, on the streets and in the restaurants. There will be music and dancing on The Square and all are welcome to join in.

### 20.00: Warrior Women Documentary

**Location:** Go Explore Hostel, Clare Island

The Warrior Women documentary on Grace O'Malley. Lucy Lawless, star of Xena - Warrior Princess - hosts this one-hour episode produced by October Films.

**BBQ also available** (with charge).

### 20.00: Céilí

**Location:** The Parochial Hall, Louisburgh **Admission:** €5

### 21.00: Seafood Banquet

**Location:** Patten's Bar, Achill

Plenty of local food to be enjoyed along with a traditional céilí featuring Scoil Acla musicians. **Admission:** €10

## SUNDAY

### 10.00am: The Pirate Queen's Passage

**Location:** Great Western Greenway, Westport - Achill

Details as per Saturdays programme.

**Price:** €90 pp **Contact:** Clew Bay Bike Hire 353 98 37675 or email info@clewbaybikehire.ie

### 10.30am: The Grace O'Malley Coach Tour

**Location:** Westport - Louisburgh - Achill

Details as per Saturdays programme.

**Contact:** Clew Bay Heritage Centre 00353 98 26852 or email westportheritage@eircom.net

### 10.30am: Guided Historical Tour of Clare Island

**Location:** Clare Island

Departs Roonagh at 10.30am. On arrival, Clare Island native Martin Moran will greet the group for a cup of tea and a scone before setting off on the tour. The guided walk will last about 2.5 - 3 hours. The group can leave the island at 4.45pm or 6.00pm.

**Price:** €20, this includes lunch and ferry crossing.

**Contact:** Booking essential through the Clare Island Development Office +353 (0)98 26525 or email: claracdp@eircom.net

### 10.45am: Pipe Band Recital

**Location:** St. Patricks Church grounds, Newport

Traditional music with Clew Bay Pipe Band.

### 12.00: Yawl Exhibition

**Location:** Kildavnet Castle, Achill

Photography, Miniature Hand Crafted Yawl Sailing Boats & Children's Art. Grace O'Malley theme and will run throughout the festival.

### 12.00-17.00: Medieval Village - A Slice of 16th Century Life

**Location:** Westport House

Come and explore the medieval village where you will see displays of how our ancestors traded, lived and played including crafts, cookery and games. Lamp making, wood work, leather work, arms and armour, bow making, cooking site and pottery will all be on display. If that isn't enough come along and spectate the combat displays.

### Grace O'Malley at Westport House

**Location:** Westport House

Details as per Saturdays programme.

**Price:** €7.50 **Contact:** www.westporthouse.ie

### 14.00 - 18.00pm: Grainne Ale Festival

The Ale Festival continues!

**Music:** 14.15: Celtica 16.30: Ain't Mis-behaving

### 15.00: The Kildavnet Castle Yawl Race

**Location:** Kildavnet Castle, Achill

The Kildavnet Castle Yawl Race (Live Commentary by Cummann Badoiri Acla's Michael Cooney)

### 15.00: Grace O'Malley - Maritime Icon

by author Anne Chambers. Followed by Q&A session

**Location:** The Drawing Room, Westport House

In Granuaile - the original best-selling biography of this historic icon, from rare and exclusive contemporary manuscript material - Anne Chambers draws Ireland's great pirate queen in from the vagueness of myth and legend and presents the historical reality of one of the world's most extraordinary female leaders.

**Admission:** €10

### 16.30: Traditional Music

**Location:** Kildavnet Castle, Achill

Traditional music with the Tiernan Family and set dancing exhibition also on with the Achill Strawboys.

### 18.00: Presentation of Yawl prizes

**Location:** Kildavnet Castle, Achill

Presentation of Yawl / Children's Artwork prizes.